

A CITY in A PARK



Little Rock Parks & Recreation Newsletter

October 2015

Director's Message

Leaves of red, gold, orange and yellow...surrounding us like a colorful blanket. Autumn is a beautiful time here in Little Rock. I invite you to explore a new park or trail to see for yourself!

October looks to be another busy month, full of activity and fun for all ages. As our nation observes Breast Cancer Awareness Month, we here at Little Rock Parks and Recreation celebrate the women and men who have been personally affected by breast cancer. Some of our staff will be racing along with thousands of others during Little Rock's Race for the Cure October 10. We are also glad to be able to offer a free breast cancer screening at our East Little Rock Community Center the first day of the month. For the kids, this is a very special time of their sports seasons as our youth cheerleaders, football and volleyball players will have their annual Pink Out games this month. Seeing all those young athletes and coaches decked out in pink is truly an energizing sight.

This month we celebrate your pooches too! On the 17th, at our Curran Conway Park, the first ever Pop-Up Dog Park Event will take place. You're invited to come out with your dog and play with other furry friends. The Little Rock Animal Village will be there with others offering some helpful information, advice and adoptions too! Then, travel a few blocks north to the outdoor pool at Jim Dailey Fitness and Aquatics Center as the pool goes to the dogs during the annual Doggie Paddle Day. These are special events but you are welcome year-round at our award-winning dog parks in MacArthur Park downtown and Murray Park near the Arkansas River.

Put on your costume and running shoes and meet us at the beautiful Two Rivers Park on Saturday, October 24 for our annual Mud Run! It's a 5k, it's a costume contest, it's a unique and amusing, lively event our Little Rock Marathon directors coordinate each fall.

We'll end the month with a spectacular site at the "Balloon Glow & Mac-O-Lanterns Evening in the Park." I hope you can come out to enjoy the fall festivities with us at MacArthur Park. There will be pumpkins, food, music and some truly incredible hot air balloons in which everyone can delight!

Here's wishing you a glorious fall. Get out and enjoy it while you can!

Truman Tolefree



In This Issue

- Therapeutic Rec Goes to Camp
- Mount St. Mary Academy's Mercy Day
- Youth Athletics



Mercy Day



More than 100 Sophomores from Mount St Mary Academy trekked down the trail from their campus to Allsopp Park September 24 as part of their school's "Mercy Day." This annual day of service for the students is held each fall and we are thankful they chose Little Rock Parks &

Recreation again this year as one of their project sites. Thank you faculty, staff and students for setting a great example and bringing such energy to our park!



Our new Junior Ranger Program carried over to the school year with an afterschool session this September. For two weeks these elementary students enjoyed learning about the parks, our ecosystem and what it means to take care of nature. All while having fun!

A beautiful new sculpture greets guests at the Little Rock Animal Village entrance. "Who Rescued Who" was designed and sculpted by Lorri Acott. Our team was proud to install this beautiful piece, dedicated by the Adcock Family at the Village's annual "Pawty" September 19th.



Upcoming Events

October

3: Fall Fishing Derby @ Ottenheimer Park Pond

6: National Night Out

10: Race for the Cure



17: Pop Up Dog Park @ Curran Conway

17: Doggie Paddle Day @ Jim Dailey Fitness & Aquatics Center

24: Mud Run...Little Rock's Dirtiest 5k @ Two Rivers Park

30: Balloon Glow & Mac-O-Lanterns...An Evening in the Park @ MacArthur Park

31: Happy Halloween!



Youth Athletics ...Our Superstars



New jerseys, new pompoms, new kneepads...new attitudes!
Our football and volleyball seasons are in full force-and this year with new digs!
Thanks to a generous grant from Dr. Pepper/Snapple and Good Sports, our young players and participants are outfitted with new equipment for their games. Please come out each Saturday morning to cheer on these dedicated youngsters and let them show off for you!



Campfires and Canoeing...

The Therapeutic Recreation Adult Branch Out Program spent a few days at camp last month. The group arrived at Camp Aldersgate on a Wednesday afternoon. Their time was spent enjoying a variety of recreational activities together. The evenings included campfires and s'mores. The days included hiking, archery, fishing, canoeing, arts and crafts and team-building games. The annual two-day camping trip fosters independence while introducing new experiences.



October is the mellow, messy, leaf-kicking, perfect pause between the opposing miseries of summer and winter-Carol Bishop Hipps

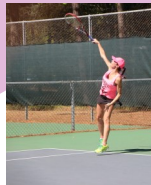
Happy October Birthday to these Little Rock Parks & Recreation staff members!

Karen Johnson-12
Cleo Clark-24
Mark Missouri-25
Larry Jackson-21

Ernie Moix-27
Herbert Hubbard-5
Michael Hall-30
Stacy Davis-11



**Ace for the Cure
@ Rebsamen
Tennis Center!**



Contact Us

Give us a call, send an email or visit our offices at City Hall. We welcome your comments!

Little Rock Parks & Recreation

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